

**Dan Bernal**  
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**Laurie Green, M.D.**  
Vice President

**Edward A. Chow, M.D.**  
Commissioner

**Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.**  
Commissioner

**Cecilia Chung**  
Commissioner

**Suzanne Giraudo ED.D**  
Commissioner

**Tessie M. Guillermo**  
Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN  
FRANCISCO**

**London N. Breed Mayor**  
**Department of Public Health**



**Grant Colfax, MD**  
Director of Health

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**MINUTES**  
**HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Tuesday June 21 2022 4:00 p.m.**  
**101 Grove Street, Room 300**  
**San Francisco, CA 94102 & via Webex**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Commissioner Dan Bernal President  
Commissioner Laurie Green, MD, Vice President  
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.  
Commissioner Cecilia Chung  
Commissioner Suzanne Giraudo, Ph.D

Excused: Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.  
Commissioner Tessie Guillermo

The meeting was called to order at 4:03pm.

**2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF JUNE 7, 2022.**

Action taken: The Health Commission approved the minutes of the June 7, 2022 meeting.

**3) DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Grant Colfax MD, DPH Director of Health, and Naveena Bobba, MD, DPH Deputy Director of Health, presented the report.

**SAN FRANCISCO OPENS TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED ADULTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE NEEDS**

Mayor London N. Breed, DPH, and the San Francisco Adult Probation Department (SFAPD) announced the opening of a new transitional housing facility at 509 Minna Street for justice-involved adults who are experiencing homelessness and have complex mental health and substance use disorders.

The Minna Project is a partnership between DPH and SFAPD in collaboration with community partners Westside Community Services for program and property management. The 75-bed facility provides wraparound services designed to aid the transition to independent living after involvement with the justice system. The services include outpatient mental health and substance use disorder treatment; case management;

medication management; support groups; and recreational activities. The Minna Project also supports participants in recovery through group therapy, peer support, and medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders.

Individuals with behavioral health needs are overrepresented in the justice system, with up to one-third of all jail inmates receiving behavioral healthcare. This population is also disproportionately affected by homelessness and the overdose epidemic.

The Minna Project will help participants achieve their goal to live independently. The facility premises will be maintained as an alcohol and drug free environment to create a safe space. If participants use drugs, DPH and SFAPD staff will do whatever it takes to help people with mental health or drug use conditions maintain their residence and move towards wellness and recovery.

The Reentry Division of SFAPD will coordinate the delivery of onsite services through community partners. This team, led by formerly incarcerated people, has developed a portfolio of reentry and rehabilitative programs for justice-involved adults that promote recovery and independence. DPH will fund the transitional housing program and develop the clinical behavioral healthcare services available for Minna Project participants.

The new facility at 509 Minna adds 75 beds to DPH's residential care and treatment programs and is part of a 400-bed expansion over the coming years to provide more spaces and overnight options. After 509 Minna opens, DPH will have opened 70 percent or 268, of the planned 400 new beds. The facility soft launched in early May, connecting initial guests to community services until the program ramps up for onsite wraparound services by Fall.

### **THREE ADDITIONAL PROBABLE CASES OF MONKEYPOX IDENTIFIED IN SAN FRANCISCO RESIDENTS**

DPH has announced three additional probable cases of monkeypox that have been identified in San Francisco residents through testing at a California Department of Public Health laboratory in Richmond, CA. These three additional cases follow a first probable case two weeks ago, bringing the total probable case count in San Francisco to four.

DPH is awaiting confirmation of monkeypox for all four cases from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In the cases reported, one of the individuals reported to have traveled within the U.S. recently while the other two individuals did not. All three individuals are in isolation and in good health condition.

The risk to the general population from this virus is believed to be low. Having close physical contact, including sex, with multiple people can put a person at higher risk for monkeypox.

There is still more to learn about the conditions in which monkeypox is spreading, and people can expect that public health guidance will evolve accordingly. It is currently understood that monkeypox can spread through activities that include intimate sexual contact, kissing, breathing at very close range, or sharing bedding and clothing. It appears as a distinctive rash or sores on the skin anywhere on the body, including in the genital area. It often begins as flu-like symptoms.

While we are seeing a cluster of cases appearing nationally and internationally, monkeypox remains rare, and there are other contagious illnesses that can cause rash or skin lesions. For example, syphilis and herpes are much more common than monkeypox, can appear similar, and should be treated too.

Individuals who may have been exposed to monkeypox, or who [have symptoms](#), should immediately contact their health care provider for evaluation and guidance. Clinicians should report suspected monkeypox cases to [DPH Communicable Disease Control](#).

DPH anticipates that more cases of monkeypox could occur in San Francisco. DPH is monitoring updates and guidance from the CDC and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) on the evolving situation. DPH systems are in place to receive reports of suspected cases from health care providers; identify and reach out to any individuals who have been in contact with cases during their infectious period; and ensure that clinicians remain well informed about testing, infection control and management of monkeypox as the situation develops. CDPH has procured the Jynneos vaccine to distribute to counties for preventative use in people who are identified as close contacts.

Most of the recent cases of monkeypox globally are among individuals who self-identify as gay men or men who have sex with men, which may put individuals in this community at higher risk of infection. However, anyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, can become infected with and spread monkeypox.

**How to protect yourself:**

- Cover exposed skin in dense, indoor crowds
- Don't share bedding, clothing, and food or drink with others
- Talk to close physical contacts about their general health like recent rashes or sores
- Stay aware if traveling to countries where there are outbreaks

**If you have symptoms particularly a rash consistent with monkeypox, or if you have been in contact with someone who has been diagnosed with monkeypox:**

- Cover the area of the rash with clean, dry, loose-fitting clothing
- Wear a well-fitted mask
- Avoid skin-to-skin, or close contact with others, including sexual contact, until a medical evaluation has been completed
- Contact a health care provider as soon as possible for an evaluation
- Assist public health officials to track others who may have been exposed
- Inform sex partners of symptoms

**How to get help if you don't have a doctor:**

If you do not have a provider, or have difficulty scheduling an appointment, you can be seen at SF City Clinic at 7th Street San Francisco (**628-217-6600**) or at Strut located 470 Castro Street (**415-581-1600**).

**Additional San Francisco cases will be reported at:** [SF.gov/monkeypox](https://sf.gov/monkeypox)

Information about how to gather safely and about safer sex can be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/sexualhealth/social.html>

**HIGHLIGHTING THE WORK OF DPH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH'S AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORS**

The San Francisco Agricultural Commissioner, Cree Morgan, and his program are housed in DPH's Environmental Health Branch. Every day a team of two inspectors from this program are tasked with conducting inspections of incoming shipments of plants and other agricultural products to ensure that regulated pests are not imported into San Francisco or the State of California. During a routine inspection at the FedEx facility in San Francisco these inspectors were investigating a shipment of plants from Florida. Upon inspection of the plants, live suspect pests were found on the underside of the plant leaves. Pest samples were collected and submitted to the State Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory. The lab was able to identify two A-rated pests, mango shield scale and masked scale. A notice of rejection was issued for violating the

California Food and Agricultural Code. This is just one example of the very important work our Agricultural Inspector's, Chad Porter and Victor Rabinovich, do every day to protect San Francisco from unwanted pests.

### **NEW GRANT FUNDING AWARDED TO DPH'S MATERNAL CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH**

DPH Maternal Child Adolescent Health has been awarded Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Title V Innovation Grant to support the launch of an Interagency Collaborative Council on CYSHCN. This \$1.3 million in funding over a 3.5 year period will aim to:

1. Center authentic engagement of youth and families in systems improvements with an emphasis on youth and families from historically excluded communities.
2. Improve coordination across systems, and between those systems and the youth and families they serve.
3. Build a collaborative that is meaningfully and financially sustainable beyond the grant-funded period.
4. Build data capacity of the collaborative to better understand the needs of families with CYSHCN in San Francisco.

### **FCS VACCINE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

To address disproportionately low rates of COVID vaccination amongst foster youth, DPH has collaborated extensively with many partners (DPH's Neighborhood and Equity Branch and Community Branch, housed within the COVID Task Force; MCAH; Human Services Agency (HAS), FCS's Public Health Nursing team, Guardian Scholars Program at SF State & SF City College, the HOPE Scholars at UC Berkeley; SFUSD; UCSF School of Medicine; and the Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP); Horizons Unlimited and Galaria de La Raza) to build a youth focused **Vaccine Ambassador Program**.

- In March-May of 2022, **20** Foster Youth Vaccine Ambassadors were trained on COVID-19 vaccination information and motivational interviewing skills. **14** of the ambassadors took an English course and provided feedback in focus groups facilitated by UCSF's PRIME medical students. **6** of the ambassadors were trained in Spanish with an updated training based on the feedback of the initial 14.
- At the request of youth, we built a summer internship (funded by Mayor Breed's program, *Opportunities for All*) that 7 interns (a \$1500 stipend) and one advanced fellow (\$2500) will be doing for five weeks this summer. ILSP is hosting the internship, with programmatic support from partners listed above.
- DPH's Office of Health Equity will be starting a youth focused career development pipeline program, and has demonstrated commitment to prioritizing foster youth in FY 22-23. We are excited to try to build on the work of the summer internship to continue to empower foster youth around health equity, and hope that this may be a pipeline that is established and continues for many years to come.

### **DPH TRAUMA INFORMED SYSTEMS TRAINING OPPORTUNITY**

On June 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm, DPH staff are invited to attend an Intro to Mindfulness training from Jenee Johnson, Program Innovation Leader. Find out more by visiting the Eventbrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/349019596007>

### **DPH in the News**

#### **Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Giraudo requested clarification on the specific goals of the grant awarded to Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health. Dr. Hali Hammer, Director of the San Francisco Health Network Ambulatory Care, stated that she would forward the information through Mr. Morewitz.

Commissioner Giraudo asked for specific outreach areas that the DPH vaccine ambassadors are using for engagement. Dr. Bobba, stated that foster youth is a particular focus of outreach, based on feedback from focus groups.

Commissioner Chow noted the scheduled closure of the Tenderloin Care center and asked if the services will be integrated into other DPH programs. Dr. Bobba stated that the DPH is working in conjunction with the Mayor's Office and City Attorney to develop safe consumption sites along with other harm reduction programs which will incorporate lessons learned from the Tenderloin Care center.

#### **4) COVID-19 UPDATE**

Grant Colfax MD, DPH Director of Health, presented the report.

##### Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal thanked Director Colfax for the information.

Commissioner Chow asked for data regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> vaccine booster distribution. Dr. Bobba stated that the DPH is hoping to get a better understanding of this data in the next few weeks.

Commissioner Chow asked how the DPH is interacting with pediatricians regarding vaccine distribution to children under the age of five. Dr. Bobba stated that the COVID-19 Taskforce is working with pediatricians to address any barriers, such as vaccine storage, to vaccine distribution to patients.

Commissioner Green noted that within her patients, there is an increased vaccine hesitancy for patients under 5 years old. She asked if it is possible to predict the vaccine uptake for this population based on the uptake of the older children, previously vaccinated. Dr. Bobba stated that currently, demands for the vaccine are robust. The DPH and COVID-19 Taskforce continue to work with pediatricians on vaccine hesitancy barriers.

#### **5) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no general public comment.

*Note: At 4:31pm, Commissioner Bernal stepped away to meet with Mayor London Breed. He returned at 4:49pm. While he was away, the Health Commission no longer maintained quorum necessary to hold a meeting. During this period, the Health Commission meeting went into recess and became an information session.*

#### **6) GENDER HEALTH SF UPDATE**

Jenna Rapues, MPH, Director, Gender Health SF, Behavioral Health Services; Seth Pardo, Ph.D, Director, Center for Data Science, Population Health Division, and Barry Zevin, MD, Medical Director, Whole Person Integrated Care, Street Medicine, Shelter Health, Urgent Care, Open Access Clinic, presented the item.

##### Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal thanked the presenters for their extraordinary work, noting that their work is life saving and life affirming. He added that all of the Health Commissioners are proud to see the program evolve and continue to serve the community. He also stated that all the Commissioners are very proud to be associated with the program and its dedicated staff members.

Commissioner Green noted that it is remarkable how much the program has been able to accomplish in ten years. She asked how the program supports people who are not ready for surgery and those who are ready but experience delays in surgery appointments. Ms. Rapues stated that the program medical and behavioral health staff coordinate with clients' primary care providers to ensure wrap-around care is provided. Navigators work with clients to develop and implement a recovery plan.

Commissioner Green asked how needs of younger clients, teens and those in their 20's, are handled, noting that this population may have differing needs. Dr. Barry Zevin, Medical Director of the program, stated that the program works closely with Dimensions Clinic, which specializes in trans clients 26 and younger. He noted that

the collaboration of the two programs will become stronger once the Dimensions Clinic will be located at the newly renovated Castro Mission Health Center.

Commissioner Chow asked for more information regarding barriers to ZSFG staff performing more procedures for this population. Dr. Zevin stated that barriers include staffing issues for ZSFG OR rooms, expertise of ZSFG medical staff, and ability to have both clinic and OR time to see patients. He noted that prior to the COVID pandemic, some progress was being made, but ZSFG continues to experience staffing issues related to COVID.

## **7) HIV FUNDING OVERVIEW: HIV HEALTH SERVICES AND COMMUNITY HEALTH EQUITY AND PROMOTION**

Bill Blum, Director, HIV Health Services, Tracey Packer, Director, Community Health Equity and Promotion Branch, and Nyisha Underwood, Community Health Equity and Quality Improvement Manager, Community Health Equity and Promotion, presented the item.

### **Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Bernal thanked the presenters for the informative update. He added that the Health Commission is very proud that the DPH continues to lead the way in regard to HIV programs and initiatives.

Commissioner Chow asked for more information regarding the \$350,000 carve-out from Healthy San Francisco for this population. Dr. Zevin stated that these funds are earmarked for uninsured patients under Healthy San Francisco. He noted that most patients are covered by Medi-Cal, Medicare, or other insurance. He added that the San Francisco Health Plan is negotiating a universal rate but at present, the costs are sometimes negotiated on a case-by-case basis. He also stated that if the procedures were done within network providers, it would be more cost effective.

Commissioner Chow stated that he is happy to hear about the Health Access Point developments. He appreciates the broad spectrum of services noted in the presentation, and the attempts to deal with health disparities.

Director Colfax stated that often in bureaucracy, status quo is easier to maintain, but it is important to acknowledge the importance of continued evolution. He thanked Ms. Underwood for her work on the complex RPF, which became controversial due to the funding changes it brought.

## **8) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Commissioner Giraudo, Chair, stated that the DPH provide a robust review of Population Health Division and San Francisco Health Network non-hospital programs devoted to serving the LGBTQ communities. She noted that when EPIC was implemented in 2019, all sexual orientation and gender information previously entered in to DPH data systems, was lost. Huge efforts have been made to re-collect this information data at Laguna Honda Hospital, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, and the San Francisco Health Network primary care sites. Trans Access Program provides multi-disciplinary services to primary unhoused transgender clients. The Tom Waddell Transgender Clinic, founded in 1993, provides primary care and behavioral health services, in addition to other social work services. Dimensions Clinic, focused on clients 12-25 years, will be co-located at the Castro Mission Health Center. The clinic provides primary care, behavioral health, and supportive services to clients and their families, when appropriate. The South Van Ness Adult Behavioral Health Services focuses on gender health and HIV.

Commissioner Giraudo also noted that the Population Health Division programs focus on STI, HIV, and Hepatitis C. She added that the Health Access Point programs are designed to provide services to the community. City Clinic provides broad sexual health services. The presentation also included data improvement projects and current research studies.

**9) OTHER BUSINESS:**

This item was not discussed.

**10) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Chow, LHH JCC Member, stated that at the June 14, 2021 Laguna Honda Hospital JCC meeting, the Committee held a primarily closed session due to the Board of Supervisors holding a hearing on Laguna Honda at the same time as our meeting. In open session, the committee approved the minutes. In closed session, the committee approved the Credentials Report and PIPS Minutes Report in addition to reviewing the Medical Quality report. The Commission members have requested that the JCC meetings incorporated reports on the recertification efforts in addition to the necessary regulatory reports.

**11) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm.